

## **Kentucky Rising (Draft outline – 11/19/2014) For Discussion Only**

**Context:** In order for the economy of the Commonwealth to continue to grow and create jobs for our citizens, the education community must respond and create a stronger work force that meets the requirements of foreign industries who are directly investing in Kentucky and industries that are creating trade with other countries.

**Goal:** Kentucky will establish a program entitled Kentucky Rising. This program will establish criteria for a high school diploma/certificate/endorsement that certifies a graduate meets the requirements to take the next step (careers/education) that are needed to ensure our workforce is an asset for global economic development.

**Target:** Increase percentage of students who meet requirements for a global ready diploma.

**Measures:** There will be multiple measures and assessments to meet the global ready diploma requirements. Several examples already exist – Industry Certifications, Work Ready Certifications, Excellence for All, International Baccalaureate, Advance Placement Scholar, and Asia Society schools are a few examples.

**Possible strategies:** A unified plan must be created to extend the current Unbridled Learning unified plan for college and career readiness. CPE, EPSB, KDE, and other partners will have key roles and responsibilities within the plan.

- Career Ready Students – SREB report, CCSSO report, new initiatives between US and Switzerland through Department of Labor, KY Economic Development Plan, TRACK program
- World Language/Global Competency Program Reviews
- Social Studies Standards
- Instructional Systems – Excellence for All, IB, AP, Asia Society, Dual Immersion
- Next Generation Assessment and Accountability – Innovation Lab Network
- Globally Ready Teachers – US DOE Teacher Equity Plans, CCSSO *Our Responsibility: Our Promise* report, NT3 Grants, NTEP Career Pathways, Professional Learning tools (based on instructional programs), TIF federal grant
- Postsecondary Transition – Global diploma/certificate must be recognized as significant achievement by industry and postsecondary institutions. Students should be heavily recruited, accepted early, and receive scholarships.
- Leadership Development – partnerships with NISL, KASA new leadership center and Ky Chamber of Commerce innovative leadership development program
- Communication Plan – comprehensive collaboration similar to College/Career Ready plan

**Process:** A comprehensive needs assessment would be completed to identify current initiatives and programs that should be integrated with the Kentucky Rising initiative. A meeting of the CPE, KBE, and EPSB chairs, vice-chairs, and CEO's will be held to gain support for the initiative. A statewide meeting will be held to gain support of multiple partners. Districts will volunteer to implement program through the District of Innovation process. Funding and support will be managed through the Fund for Transforming Education in Kentucky.

Kentucky Rising is the title of a book by James Ramage and Andrea Watkins, co-published in 2011 by the Kentucky Historical Society. The following is excerpted from the jacket copy:

*Kentucky's first settlers brought with them a dedication to democracy and a sense of limitless hope about the future. Determined to participate in world progress in science, education, and manufacturing, Kentuckians wanted to make the United States a great nation....[T]he eyes of the nation often focused on Kentucky, which was perceived as a leader among the states before the Civil War. Globally oriented Kentuckians were determined to transform the frontier into a network of communities exporting to the world market and dedicated to the new republic.*